

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-95. (Canceled)

96. (New) A method for monitoring assembly of a tubular connection at a drilling rig from an off-site location, comprising:

engaging a first threaded tubular with a second threaded tubular;

rotating the first tubular relative to the second tubular; and

during rotation of the first threaded tubular:

measuring torque applied to the first tubular; and

transmitting the torque measurement to a remote computer via a wireless communication link;

monitoring assembly of the connection via an at least two-way data communication connection over the Internet between the remote computer and a computer at the off-site location by a person at the off-site location;

communicating between the off-site person and a person on the drilling rig wearing a human-portable data communications module via the communication connection; and

inserting the tubulars into a wellbore.

97. (New) The method of claim 96, further comprising:

measuring turns of the first tubular; and

transmitting the turns measurement to the remote computer.

98. (New) The method of claim 97, further comprising determining acceptability of the tubular connection using the torque and turns measurements.

99. (New) The method of claim 96, wherein the communication between the people comprises directing assembly of the connection by the off-site person.

100. (New) The method of claim 96, wherein:

the second tubular is part of a tubular string, and
the method further comprises drilling a wellbore to an oil and/or gas bearing formation using the tubular string.

101. (New) The method of claim 100, wherein:
the tubular string is stuck or damaged in the wellbore, and
the method further comprises recovering at least a portion of the tubular string
102. (New) The method of claim 100, further comprising transmitting data from at least one sensor located in the wellbore to the remote computer.
103. (New) The method of claim 102, wherein the sensor monitors a condition of the tubular string.
104. (New) The method of claim 100, wherein the tubulars are drill pipe and the tubular string is a drill string.
105. (New) The method of claim 96, further comprising scanning barcodes or RFID tags disposed on or in the first tubular.
106. (New) The method of claim 96, wherein the communication connection is real time.
107. (New) The method of claim 96, wherein the tubulars are casing.
108. (New) The method of claim 96, wherein the communications module comprises an external camera, and the communication between the people comprises transmitting an image or video corresponding to the on-site person's view to the off-site person.
109. (New) The method of claim 96, wherein the communications module is fastened to a hardhat.

110. (New) The method of claim 96, wherein the communications module comprises a video display.

111. (New) The method of claim 96, wherein the communications module comprises a GPS locator; and the method further comprises transmitting location information of the on-site person to the off-site computer via the communication connection.